



Office of the People's Counsel
District of Columbia
Advocating, Protecting and Educating DC Consumers

NASUCA Annual Meeting
Orlando, FL

Making Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Real For the People

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Office of the People's Counsel for the District of Columbia



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The People's Counsel established the Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Section in 2011 to recommend strategies and activities for the Office that achieve the following objectives:

- **Increase awareness of energy efficiency, renewable and sustainable energy options to the broad base of DC consumers in all wards and income levels;**
- **Educate consumers regarding innovative and emerging options in the field;**
- **Determine how consumers can capitalize and participate in the development of the new utility applications;**
- **Devise legal and policy positions that advance the use of these resources and benefit ratepayers;**
- **Actively participate in and monitor the implementation of the DC Sustainable Energy Utility;**
- **Continue alliances with other stakeholders in the field; and expand and refine our presence at PJM and FERC.**



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Theme:

Consumer empowerment through prioritizing consumer input and building community partnerships

Examples:

- **The DC Sustainable Energy Utility**
- **Sustainable DC Initiative**
- **Community Renewables Energy Act of 2013**



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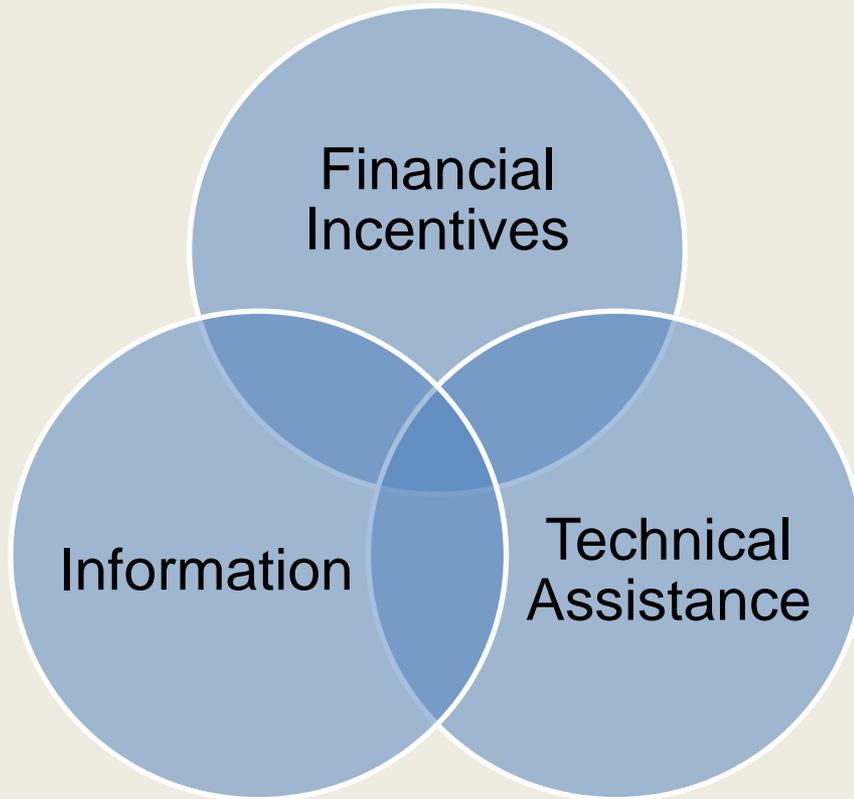
People's Counsel, member of Advisory Board for



- Created by the Clean and Affordable Energy Act of 2008, the DC SEU is an entity under contract with the District Department of the Environment to serve as the District's central resource for energy efficiency and renewable energy programs and services.
- DC SEU funded through the Sustainable Energy Trust Fund paid for through a monthly surcharge on electricity and gas ratepayers' utility bills.
- Advisory Board for the DC SEU comprised of thirteen members including the Chair of the DC Public Service Commission, Pepco, Washington Gas, OPC, Sierra Club and other representatives from various sustainability-related sectors in the District.



DC SEU



- **Residential:** Offering District residents rebates and incentives that help them save money and energy in their homes.
- **Low Income Multifamily:** A two-part program, Low-Income Multifamily Services includes Low-Income Multifamily Comprehensive Program and the Low-Income Implementation Contractor Direct Program.
- **Commercial and Institutional:** Targeting large building owners in the District, offering comprehensive services to help facilitate the retrofitting and efficiency renovation process.



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- Mayor Vincent Gray's vision: ***"In just one generation - 20 years - the District of Columbia will be the healthiest, greenest, and most livable city in the United States. An international destination for people and investment, the District will be a model of innovative policies and practices that improve quality of life and economic opportunity. We will demonstrate how enhancing our natural and built environments, investing in a diverse clean economy, and reducing disparities among residents can create an educated, equitable and prosperous society."***



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Sustainable DC - Energy

Goal 1: Improve the efficiency of energy use to reduce overall consumption.

Target: By 2032, cut citywide energy use by 50%.

Goal 2: Increase the proportion of energy sourced from clean and renewable supplies.

Target: By 2032, increase the use of renewable energy to make up 50% of the District's energy supply.

Goal 3: Modernize energy infrastructure for improved efficiency and reliability.

Target: By 2032, reduce annual power outages to between 0 and 2 events of less than 100 minutes per year.



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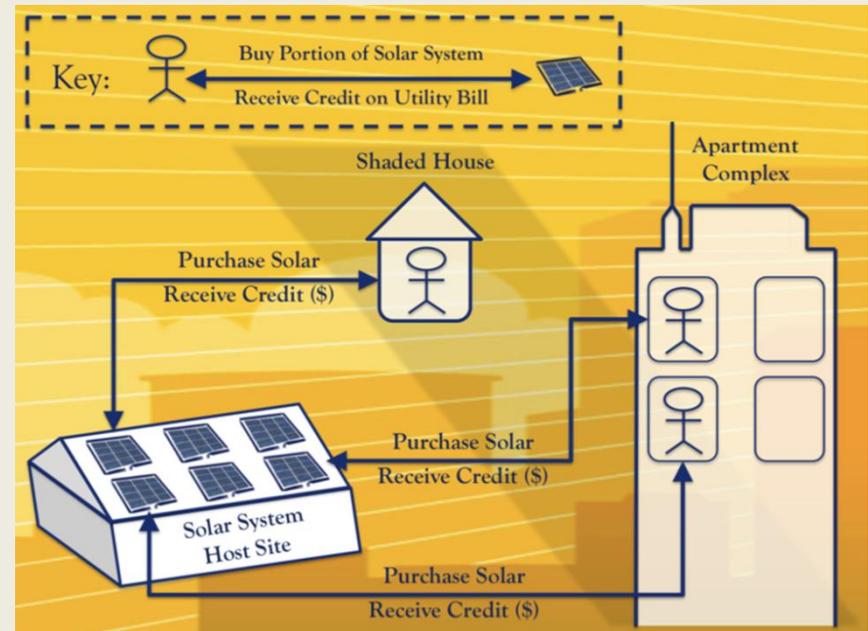
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DC Community Renewables Energy Act

The Community Renewables Energy Act provides a framework for the implementation of community-shared renewable energy facilities which generate electricity from renewable sources such as solar. Through subscribing to shares of community-shared renewable energy facilities, District consumers will be entitled to monetary credits on their monthly electricity bills reflecting the energy which their share contributed to the electricity grid.

For the past two years, OPC played a pivotal role in the drafting, analysis and review of the Community Renewables Energy Act. The Office was an active participant in the working group convened by the DC Council in 2012 to finalize technical details related to the legislation. (photo courtesy: www.dcsun.org)





**Community Renewables Energy Act of 2013
passes unanimously in the DC Council on October 1, 2013**

(Next step: DC Public Service Commission expected to begin
rulemaking soon)



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Thank you:



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